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March 2, 2005

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Art Unit: 1631
Examiner: M.A. Moran
Conf. No.: 4511

Re: U.S. Patent Application No. 09/300,482 filed April 28, 1999
Inventors: Nordine CHEIKH *et al.*
Title: Nucleic Acid Molecules and Other Molecules
Associated with the Phosphogluconate Pathway
Atty. Dkt: 16517.216

Sir:

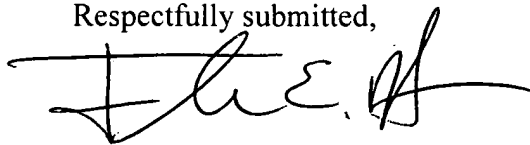
Transmitted herewith for appropriate action by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (PTO) are the following documents:

1. Amendment and Response; and
2. Return postcard.

It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier.

In the event that extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned. Applicants do not believe any additional fees are due in conjunction with this filing. However, if any fees are required in the present application, including any fees for extensions of time, then the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge such fees to Arnold & Porter LLP Deposit Account No. 50-2387, referencing docket number 16517.216. A duplicate copy of this letter is attached.

Respectfully submitted,



Thomas E. Holsten (Reg. No. 46,098)

Enclosures



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Nordine CHEIKH *et al.*

Appln. No.: 09/300,482

Filed: April 28, 1999

For: Nucleic Acid Molecules and Other Molecules Associated with the
Phosphogluconate Pathway

Confirmation No.: 4511

Art Unit: 1631

Examiner: Marjorie A. Moran

Atty. Docket: 16517.216

Amendment and Response

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated December 2, 2004, Applicants submit the following amendment and remarks.

Amendments to Claims begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 6 of this paper.